

Weekly Report – July 24, 2013

Appropriations:

- This week the House is considering the Department of Defense Appropriations bill (H.R. 2397).
 - The bill sets FY14 discretionary spending for the Department of Defense at \$512.5 billion, which is \$26 billion *higher* than the final base defense spending for FY13.
 - The bill provides \$85.8 billion in war funding (Overseas Contingency Operations). When combined with OCO funding provided to the Department of State, the total OCO funding for FY14 is \$93 billion, approximately the same as FY13.
 - Spending levels in this bill are consistent with the House-passed and RSC budgets, as well as the House-passed NDAA for FY14.

Hold the Line on Spending – Cosign RSC Letter to the Appropriations Committee:

PAUL F. ZIMMERMAN
www.financecartoonists.com



- As the House continues work on appropriations funding for FY2014, some may argue for “turning off” spending cuts agreed to in the Budget Control Act (BCA).
- The House has addressed concerns over defense cuts through its 302(b) allocations. However, if the Senate will not agree to House 302(b) levels, under no circumstances should the House depart from total discretionary spending of \$967 billion for FY2014 agreed to in the BCA.
- Please share your support for holding aggregate spending within the BCA’s limits by signing the following letter. To cosign, Nick Myers in Congressman Woodall’s office (x: 5-4272, nick.myers@mail.house.gov).

Dear Chairman Rogers:

We write to express our support for maintaining the overall discretionary spending level of \$967 billion in Fiscal Year 2014 as called for by law in the Budget Control Act (BCA) and reiterated in the House-passed budget.

Unlike the White House and the Senate, the House has offered a roadmap to live within the \$967 billion cap set by the BCA. The House-passed 302(b) levels give detail to that roadmap and reflect Republican priorities, emphasizing national defense and eliminating wasteful and unconstitutional programs elsewhere in the federal budget.

If Senate Democrats reject this mix of spending, the BCA provides a backstop formula to meet the Fiscal Year 2014 cap by setting sub-allocations for defense and non-defense spending. While the mix of spending outlined in the BCA is inferior to the roadmap outlined in the House 302(b) levels, it is preferable to breaching the overall Fiscal Year 2014 cap.

As was the case in 2012, when the House passed the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act of 2012 and the Spending Reduction Act, we remain committed to combining discretionary savings required by the BCA with structural reforms to mandatory spending programs. These programs, if left on auto pilot, will continue to crowd out national security and other priorities, necessitate unacceptably high levels of debt, and push our country closer to a debt crisis.

(figures in millions of dollars)

Subcommittee	FY13 Post-Sequester	FY2014 House 302(b)	FY13 vs House FY14	FY13 vs House FY14
Agriculture	19,396	19,450	54	0.28%
CJS	47,140	46,845	-295	-0.63%
Defense	486,461	512,522	26,061	5.36%
Energy and Water*	34,310	30,426	-3,884	-11.32%
Financial Services	20,126	16,966	-3,160	-15.70%
Homeland	37,772	38,993	1,221	3.23%
Interior	28,299	24,278	-4,021	-14.21%
LaborHHS	150,238	121,797	-28,441	-18.93%
Legislative	4,070	4,124	54	1.33%
MilConVA	70,933	73,320	2,387	3.37%
State Foreign Ops	40,372	34,103	-6,269	-15.53%
THUD	48,673	44,100	-4,573	-9.40%
Totals	987,790	966,924	-20,866	-2.11%

*Includes non-emergency, non-disaster Sandy funding (H.R. 152)

RSC Member Appropriators and Staff

- Rep. Tom Cole – Steve Waskiewicz
- Rep. Chuck Fleischmann – Alec Vey
- Rep. Jeff Fortenberry – Allen Feyerherm
- Rep. Kay Granger – David Tully
- Rep. Tom Graves – Jason Lawrence
- Rep. Andy Harris – John Dutton
- Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler – Chad Ramey
- Rep. David Joyce – John Miceli
- Rep. Jack Kingston – Allison Thigpen
- Rep. Alan Nunnelee – Meyer Seligman
- Rep. Steve Womack – Chris Huffaker
- Rep. Kevin Yoder – Lara Driscoe

BSTF Appropriations Assistance

- The BSTF remains available to assist members interested in offering amendments to reported appropriations bills. Please contact Will Dunham at will.dunham@mail.house.gov, or ex. 6-0718 with any questions.
- The House 302(a) is \$967 billion to match BCA-mandated *post*-sequester levels. The Senate is writing its appropriations bills to \$1.058 trillion, the BCA-mandated *pre*-sequester levels.